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MESSAGE: Please see attached.

FROM Harold Wells
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CH01/WEL/HJA/222577.1

AUG 24 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application) Customer No. 47670
)
Applicant: Michael J. Pugia et al.) Attorney Docket: 017191.0003
)
Serial No.: 10/082,415) Confirmation No.: 8582
)
Filed: February 26, 2002)
)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
PRECISE TRANSFER AND)
MANIPULATION OF FLUIDS BY)
CENTRIFUGAL AND/OR CAPILLARY)
FORCES)
)
Examiner: Samuel P. Siefke)
)
Art Unit: 1743)

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In his advisory action of August 9, 2007, Examiner Siefke stated "The amendment to the claims, specifically the addition of defining the sample passageway between two vents raises new issues that would require further consideration." This is substantially the same reason given in the Examiner's advisory action of June 9, 2006. The Applicants request reconsideration because the proposed amendment merely clarified what was intended in the previous amendment. Thus, the latest amendments should have been entered, since they clearly distinguish the Shartle reference.

In the amendment filed January 22, 2007, claims 1 and 38 were amended to state that a segment defining a uniform volume of a liquid sample was disposed between two vents. The transfer passageway would transfer the uniform volume of liquid sample "through an entrance to said segment between said vents to a first reagent well." This amendment was intended to distinguish the Shartle reference, as confirmed by the following statement (see p. 10, right

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